# AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

2. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

3. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

4. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

5. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

6. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

7. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

8. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

9. **(Presently Amended)** A computerized method for checking and clearing relationship problems in an organization including a plurality of members and a conflicts administrator, comprising the steps of:

providing a computer system having a central database connected to a plurality of **computer** terminals through a data transmission network;

**providing substantially all of said members with a computer terminal;**

storing, upon said database, ~~computer-intelligible~~ existing relationship data denoting one or more existing parties being serviced by said organization;

storing, upon said database, ~~computer-intelligible~~ potential relationship data denoting one or more potential parties, said potential relationship data inputted into one of said terminals by **a member of the organization, said member being** a requesting party;

transmitting said potential relationship data from said database to **substantially all of said member via** ~~said terminals through~~ said data transmission network;

displaying **upon said terminals** said **transmitted** potential relationship data ~~upon said terminals~~ for review by ~~all~~ said members;

providing a graphic user interface upon each of said __displaying__ terminals, __said graphic user interface__ for facilitating communication between __a__ ~~said~~ members and said requesting party;

receiving, __via~~upon~~__ said terminals, response information concerning said potential relationship data, said response information ~~directly~~ entered by any one or more of said members;

transmitting said ~~input~~ __response__ information from said terminals to __both of__ said requesting party and said conflicts administrator through said data transmission network;

actuating said computer system to compare said potential relationship data and said existing relationship data __to determine a degree of similarity therebetween__;

~~identifying when potential relationship data matches existing relationship data;~~

creating an electronic report __which sets forth the results of the degree of similarity comparison__ ~~denoting one or more of said data matches, or lack thereof__~~; and

__providing__ ~~notifying__~~ said requesting party __with said report__ ~~of the status of said potential client data__.

10.     **(Presently Amended)**      The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of __requiring said requesting party to affirm they have reviewed both the response information and the report__ ~~defining one or more relationships for each of said existing parties and each of said potential parties__.

11.     **(Presently Amended)**      The method of claim __10__ ~~9~~, ~~wherein said existing relationship data is deemed to match said potential relationship data when data designating said potential party and data designating said existing party correspond with one another to at least a pre-selected degree of similarity__ __further comprising the step of approving or disapproving a proposed relationship based at least in part on said requesting party's review of both the response information and the report__.

12. **(Presently Amended)** The method of claim 9 wherein prior to the step of displaying said potential relationship data upon said terminals **comprises** ~~is~~ the step of providing a visual indication upon said terminals of ~~all~~ said members that new potential relationship data is available for review.

13. **(Presently Amended)** The method of claim 9 wherein ~~after~~ the step **of** transmitting **said potential relationship data from said database to substantially all of said member and the step of determining the degree of similarity occur substantially contemporaneously** ~~said electronic report to said conflicts administrator is the step of transmitting said electronic report to said requesting party~~.

14. **(Cancelled)** Please delete.

15. **(New)** A method for use by an organization of members in order to ascertain if a conflict exists between a potential new client matter and any pre-existing client matters of the organization, said method comprising the steps of:

Soliciting members of the organization to submit new client requests in order to ascertain if the new client request conflicts with pre-existing client data of the organization;

Receiving new client request submissions from said members;

Compiling a multiplicity of said new client requests from said submissions in a computer database;

Conducting a computerized word comparison between each new client request and pre-existing client data to determine a degree of similarity between each request and the pre-existing client data;

Based on the degree of similarity between a request and the pre-existing client data, making a first determination as to whether a conflict exists;

Contemporaneously with the computerized comparison, submitting the multiplicity of new client requests to a plurality of members of the organization via a computer interface;

Receiving, via the computer interface, feedback from a plurality of member to whom the request is submitted, wherein each member's feedback acknowledges that the member believes none of the new client requests conflict with pre-existing client data or the feedback identifies those requests in the multiplicity of new client requests that the member believes may be a potential conflict with pre-existing client data; and

Based on the feedback from members, making a second determination as to whether a conflict exists between a new client request and pre-existing client data.

16.     **(New)**       The method of claim 15, wherein the second determination is made by the original requesting member.

17.     **(New)**       The method of claim 15, wherein the organization is comprised of attorneys and the multiplicity of new client requests is submitted to all attorneys of the organization via a computer interface.

18.     **(New)**       The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of submitting the request back to the original requesting member for resolution of the conflict for each request for which member feedback has identified a potential conflict.

19.     **(New)**       The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of submitting the results of the key-word search to the original requesting member for determination of any conflicts.

20.     **(New)**       A computerized method for checking and clearing relationship problems in an organization including a plurality of members and a conflicts administrator, comprising the steps of:

(a)     providing a computer system having a central database connected to a plurality of computer terminals;

(b)     providing substantially all of said members with a computer terminal;

(c)     storing, upon said database, existing relationship data denoting one or more existing parties being serviced by said organization;

(d)     receiving a plurality of potential relationship inquiries from members of said organization, said inquiries comprising potential relationship data;

(e)     storing, upon said database, potential relationship data;

(f)     conducting two separate but parallel conflict inquiries based on said potential relationship data, namely a first conflict inquiry and a second conflict inquiry,

(g)     wherein said first inquiry comprises:

    (1)     actuating said computer system to compare said potential relationship data and said existing relationship data to determine a degree of similarity therebetween; and

    (2)     creating an electronic report which sets forth the results of the degree of similarity comparison;

(h)     wherein said second inquiry comprises:

    (1)     transmitting said potential relationship data from said database to substantially all of said members via said computer terminals;

    (2)     displaying upon said terminals said transmitted potential relationship data for review by said members;

    (3)     receiving, via said terminals, response information concerning said potential relationship data, said response information entered by any one or more of said members; and

(i)     utilizing both the response information and the electronic report to determine if a relationship problem exists.

21.     **(New)**     The method of claim 20, wherein the first inquiry and the second inquiry occur substantially contemporaneously.